

Message

From: Johnson, Gaila [johnson.gaila@epa.gov]
Sent: 11/6/2020 5:14:34 PM
To: Sanders, Amy [Sanders.Amy@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

Thanks Amy for pulling this all together. You're the BEST!!!

Gaila Johnson

Director of Civil Rights
U.S. EPA, Region 5
77 W Jackson Blvd, Mail Code: R-19J
Chicago, IL 60604
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Fax: (312) 692-2454

From: Sanders, Amy <Sanders.Amy@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 10:41 AM
To: Breslin, John <breslin.john@epa.gov>; Nelson, Leverett <nelson.leverett@epa.gov>; Rowan, Anne <rowan.anne@epa.gov>
Cc: Newton, Cheryl <Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Johnson, Gaila <johnson.gaila@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

Ex. 5 AC/AWP/DP

From: Rowan, Anne
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 9:06 AM
To: Block, Molly <block.molly@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>; regionalpress <regionalpress@epa.gov>; Alfaro, Daniel <Alfaro.Daniel@epa.gov>; Kelley, Jeff <kelley.jeff@epa.gov>
Cc: Thiede, Kurt <thiede.kurt@epa.gov>; Liebau, Joseph <Liebau.Joseph@epa.gov>; Newton, Cheryl <Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Sanders, Amy <Sanders.Amy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

Ex. 5 AC/AWP/DP

Anne Rowan

External Communications Office

U.S. EPA Region 5, Chicago

rowan.anne@epa.gov

312-296-0883 (cell)

312-353-9391 (office)

From: Block, Molly <block.molly@epa.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 8:46 AM

To: Rowan, Anne <rowan.anne@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>; regionalpress <regionalpress@epa.gov>; Alfaro, Daniel <Alfaro.Daniel@epa.gov>; Kelley, Jeff <kelley.jeff@epa.gov>

Cc: Thiede, Kurt <thiede.kurt@epa.gov>; Liebau, Joseph <Liebau.Joseph@epa.gov>; Newton, Cheryl <Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Sanders, Amy <Sanders.Amy@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

Ex. 5 AC/AWP/DP

From: Rowan, Anne <rowan.anne@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 9:00 PM

To: Press <Press@epa.gov>; regionalpress <regionalpress@epa.gov>; Alfaro, Daniel <Alfaro.Daniel@epa.gov>; Kelley, Jeff <kelley.jeff@epa.gov>

Cc: Thiede, Kurt <thiede.kurt@epa.gov>; Liebau, Joseph <Liebau.Joseph@epa.gov>; Newton, Cheryl <Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Sanders, Amy <Sanders.Amy@epa.gov>

Subject: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

Please advise. Thanks.

From: Jerome McDonnell <jmcdonnell@wbez.org>

Date: November 5, 2020 at 5:41:40 PM CST

To: "Singer, Joshua" <Singer.Joshua@epa.gov>

Subject: EPA response

Hi Joshua,

Jerome McDonnell from WBEZ here. I'm doing a short piece with two of the members of American Federation of Government Employees Local 704. I asked them about watching the election results and what they thought of the last four years and what their hopes for the future are.

They raised a couple points I want to get an EPA reaction to.

1. One of the union members talk about how not having enough enforcement officers out there, and not having enough investigators, and not having enough inspectors, will automatically decrease findings. And that will automatically decrease enforcement actions.

Is enforcement suffering because not enough EPA personnel are out there?

2. Also, a point as raised about perceived discrimination in personnel moves. Sited were an instance where the only Latino supervisor at the Office of Regional Council had his position downgraded for no apparent reason. Another instance was the a manager in the water division who was Asian American, and in a reshuffle he was the only manger that didn't end up in another management position.

Is there a discrimination problem at region 5?

I have a 1:30 deadline tomorrow(Friday).

Thanks for your help,
Jerome McDonnell
WBEZ
847 946 2595